

FACTS AS TO THE WAGE CONDITIONS IN THE CONNELLSVILLE REGION.

SOME CUTS HAVE BEEN MADE; SENTIMENT, STRONG FOR SCALE.

Reductions Mostly in the Lower Region and Are Partly Offset in Reduced Cost of Living.

HOUSE RENT IS LOWERED

BRICK BUSINESS BETTER

Eureka Plant at Mt. Braddock Resumes in Full This Week

More cheerful reports are coming from the fire brick manufacturers. The place of the Eureka Fire Brick Company resumed in full this week after some improvements had been completed. The management has put in new fire brick Steven dry oak and an additional boiler.

General Manager Watson reports that cuts for April thus far have not exceeded 5 per cent of the capacity of the plant for this month, a better showing than has been made for some time.

METHOD FOR FIXING COKE AND ASH VALUES

Germans Have Simple Way of Testing Several Samples at the Same Time

The method employed at the Bubba Iron Works German, for ascertaining the yield of coke from coal and also the ash content of the coke consists in weighing out one to two grammes of the coal into a Rose porcelain crucible which is covered by a muffle having a small hole in the center.

The crucible is inserted into a red hot muffle and left for three to five minutes, the exact point at which the coal may be regarded as fully coked being a matter of experience which is quickly gained. When the crucible is cool, it is weighed without the lid and the weight of coke found by deducting the lid. The crucible and lid are thoroughly heated at each determination. The coal must be dry and powdered as finely as possible. The method is an advantage in that several samples can be tested at once in the muffle.

Determination of the ash content of the coal and coal the latter being used as a check on the former is performed in a similar way, a portion of coal or platinum trough more accurate results being obtainable in this way than by crucible. Both coal and coke should be perfectly dry and must not be inserted in the hot muffle for combustion contrary to the method pursued in the coking tests. The coke samples are crushed and powdered carefully and must not be powdered to a loss of material will enable the analyst to determine the results. Two samples of coal and coke should be identical since none is lost during coking and as a check on the determinations, the percentage of ash in the coke may be calculated by dividing the ash content of the coal by the percentage of yield of coke.

MILLION DOLLAR DEAL IN GREENE COUNTY COAL

J. V. Thompson Purchases Big Tract Contiguous to His Other Holdings

WASHINGTON, Pa., April 12.—An other mammoth coal deal has just been closed in Greene county by J. V. Thompson the Uniontown operator.

Mr. Thompson this time appears in the role of a purchaser having bought 6,010 acres of fuel in one solid tract located a few miles north of Waynesburg. The tract known as Adams block was owned by J. B. Adams and 125 others in Uniontown who secured it several years ago for speculation.

The price paid by Mr. Thompson averaged about \$350 an acre, the entire amount involved in the sale being \$1,057,000.

The block is contiguous to other holdings of Thompson and his associates. The deed for the conveyance was filed in the Greene county recorder's office Saturday evening.

George G. Gana of Uniontown denies the report that Connellsville men had purchased his remaining one-half interest in the Brownsville plant. Under the supervision of John C. King the plant has been in practically continuous operation and is making a satisfactory record.

(Continued on Page 2)

OUTPUT AND SHIPMENTS FALL OFF; GENERAL CONDITIONS UNCHANGED; INDICATIONS FAVOR IMPROVEMENT.

Curtailment of Working Time at the Rainey and Oliver Plants, Together With Reductions in Active Ovens, Result in a Heavy Fluctuation—Iron and Steel Market Is Growing Steadier and More Favorable.

Aggregate production for the week was more than 21,000 tons less than that of the preceding week owing to a shortening of the operating time at several plants. The number of ovens in use however did not materially decrease. Shipments from both regions in a heavy degree, so compare to the preceding week the amount of coke being out netting 115 cars less. From this it will be seen that the general situation for this month in industrial particular. Steel coke in the region increased slightly.

During the present week low grade little improvements have been made, the chief item of which is the resumption of the Martin plant owned by the Republic Iron & Steel Company. About 75 ovens were held at this plant after an absence of several weeks and the entire plant will be put into operation as fast as the ovens can be held. The Martin plant owned by James E. & Company fired ten ovens this week to use coal being taken from a new opening which is being made on the property.

While fluctuations continue from week to week the condition of the Connellsville coke industry is on the whole unchanged and is still awaiting a betterment of industrial affairs. There is no disposition to start up any of the plants which have been idle for months, as the owners prefer to leave their coal in the hills at present. The coke price is covered by the market in the other direction—to cut production rather than add to the surplus of coke that remains in the market. Minimum coke surplus seems to indicate prices it must be noted that all of the standing coke in the region does not amount to one car's load of the present production in the region and a very small buying bulge would clean up every pound of the excess of standing loads and soaks on the cards. This surplus therefore does not need to be reckoned with in case of a revival of business being a negligible factor in this event.

The coke is inserted into a red hot muffle and left for three to five minutes, the exact point at which the coal may be regarded as fully coked being a matter of experience which is quickly gained. When the crucible is cool, it is weighed without the lid and the weight of coke found by deducting the lid. The crucible and lid are thoroughly heated at each determination. The coal must be dry and powdered as finely as possible. The method is an advantage in that several samples can be tested at once in the muffle.

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The reduction made at its plants by the Republic Iron & Steel Company has been offset by reductions in its costs which have been made for the men of the Republic works. The new scale for mining at the Republic works is as follows: Room coal, 54 cents; heading coal, single, 62 cents, double, 68 cents; these figures applying to fifty bushel wagons. The regular scale rate is \$1.20 for 100-bushel cars so it will be seen that the cut is not a serious one. The men at the Republic works take the same position philosophically. Their position is helped by the fact that the management has announced a reduction of \$1.00 per month in house rent and the fact that the Culver Supply Company, which operates the Republic stores, has reduced the prices on all staple articles of food such as meat, potatoes, flour, etc.

The Tower Hill Connellsville Coke Company has posted notices announcing a change in the wage rate which becomes effective today which leaves the wages to be paid at this plant very close to the regular scale. Some of the rates paid at Tower Hill had been above the scale owing to special reasons. The new mining rate as posted at Tower Hill states that room coal will hereafter be paid for at 60 cents per wagon of fifty bushels. This is the same as the scale and the old rate paid was higher. For heading coal the company will pay 63 cents per wagon of that capacity which is eight cents per hundred bushels, which is below the scale. The Tower Hill rates previously were 50 cents for room coal and 64 cents for heading. This company has reduced rents \$1 per month on single and \$2 per month on double houses and store prices at the supply company stores are also being held down.

It was rumored that a reduction in the pay of outside labor had been made at the Brier Hill works of the Brier Hill Coke Company but General Manager Thomas McCaffrey denied the report as absolutely untrue. There is no foundation for such a story said Mr. McCaffrey, "and far from reducing the wages of any man at this plant the company is anxious to hold them to their present level. We have pulled through so far paying the regular scale and have not even considered a cut so long as the big companies stick to the scale."

The Brownsville Coke Company has made a reduction at its 50 oven plant near Brownsville its rate being based on a 55-bushel wagon. This company is now paying 24 cents for loading room coal to this sized wagon and 38 cents for heading coal. The

Gana Denies Reported Sale

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COURIER'S MINING CODE PLAN RECEIVES WARM APPROVAL.

Proposition for Sub-Division of Bituminous Field Into Separate Districts Endorsed on All Sides.

INSTITUTE WILL CLOSE

Final Session of Scottdale Mining Body on Saturday Evening

In closing session of the winter term of the Scottdale Mining Institute will be held Saturday evening.

A final vote will be taken to conclude

the Institute's plan of good for

Scottdale. At the meeting program has been arranged by President J. F. Robison and Secretary W. H. Glasgow.

The type of discussion will be

Whichever has his comprehensive

over view of mining operations.

There will be a general discussion

of the subject of the proposed

sub-division of the coal

districts into four districts

including the time for the

sub-division of the coal

districts.

MEETS NEEDS OF THE HOUR

Past Perplexities and Present Problems Could Easily Be Solved By Following the Idea Laid Down by The Courier Say Operators

The suggestion advanced by The Courier will in this case solve

to a complete change in the general

plan of bituminous and anthracite

mining law by a change in the di

vision of the miners' rights

in coal and coal districts with interest

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BIGGEST CLASS OF FIRE BOSSSES.

The Largest Examination Ever Held in Scottdale On Friday.

WAS FOR ELEVENTH DISTRICT

Candidates For Fire Boss Jobs Pack Borough Building, But Class for Mine Foremen Only Half So Large As a Year Ago.

SCOTTDALE, April 9.—The largest class ever assembled for that purpose here took the examination for fire boss in the eleventh bituminous district. The G. A. R. band room in the Borough building was crowded with candidates who puzzled over hard questions today.

This is Mine Inspector McCance's third year in Scottdale, he having come here after four years of service in Pittsburgh. William Duncan of Alverton, represents the superintendents, and P. P. Glenn the miners of Scottdale, both veteran mining men, who have been examining for years. This they say is by far the biggest class, 51 in number, for fire bosses, ever held in Scottdale. The examiners were much surprised at the turning out. Inspector McCance's district extends from Washington Run to Marguerite and the candidates are all from within the boundaries of his district. More activity in this section and the encouragement given to students by the Frick people, he believes largely responsible for the class which follows:

Patrick Murphy, Southwest; Amzi Struble, Lyclypus; P. W. Menzer, Condrook; J. O. Reed, Tarr; Mike Spangler, Pleasant; David C. Clegg, Summit; Alvin and Gustav, Condrook; Dan R. Caldwell, Mammoth; Joseph W. Petruska, Calumet; C. F. Cole, Armbrust; Emerson Strickler, Greensburg; R. F. D. No. 5, Box 27; Thomas Fazekas, Pennsville; Frank Jake, Mt. Pleasant; George W. Smith, Greensburg; Jacob O. Stinson, Perryopolis; William Reineke, Perryopolis; Henry Knapel, Trauner; James Sotofec, Tarr; John Erlerheck, Mt. Pleasant; George S. Vetrochick, Scottdale; Robert Morrow, Star Junction; Joseph Beranek, Tarr; Albert Henchell, A. 2, Mt. Pleasant; John W. Reid, Mars; Wm. Williams, Mt. Pleasant; Wm. W. Smith, Mt. Pleasant; D. M. Shoots, Tarr; Mt. Pleasant; J. A. Baldwin, Mt. Pleasant; J. O. Reid, Tarr; Martin O'Laughlin, Mt. Pleasant; Robert Maher, Marguerite; Charles Burns, Mt. Pleasant; Paul Clark, Mt. Pleasant; Amzi Struble, Lyclypus; P. W. Menzer, Condrook; Frank C. Strickler, Dawson.

EXAMINATION FOR NINTH DISTRICT MEN

Class for Fire Bosses was Large, Numbering 31 Applicants—Results Will Be Made Known Soon.

Considering the business depression which cut the tonnage of the Ninth Bituminous District in half during the past year and caused hundreds of miners to leave this section and seek work elsewhere, the class which reported to Mine Inspector T. D. Williams and his associates Friday morning was unusually large. Thirty-one miners seek certificates for fire bosses and were working over the difficult problems which have been given them by the examining board.

The twelve men who took the examination earlier in the week and who hope to become mine foremen completed their labors Thursday evening and the fire bosses were given their inuring Friday. The examining board consists of Mine Inspector Williams, J. J. Stoker of Dunbar, and John Boylan of Leisenring. Those taking the examination are as follows:

Michael Colurn and Daniel Miller, Lenont Furnace; T. J. Wolfe, Connellsville; Charles Humbert, John Bass and Robert Weiling, Dunbar; Thomas O'Rourke, West Leisenring; Martin Markey, Waltersburg; Frank Duffy, Dunbar; James Yocom, Connellsville; Joseph Burns, Leisenring No. 1; Henry Rittenberger and Harry Gandy, Connellsville; Dennis Burns, Dunbar; David Davis, Oliver; John Oglethorpe, Dunbar; William Hazan, Perryopolis; Albert Tremor, and

Thomas McLean, Waltersburg; William Cameron, Adelaide; Steve Hackett, Phillips; W. H. Steen, Whitsett; Thomas Keenan and John Mullin, West Side, Connellsville; Cyrus Fleisch, Phillips; James Beniston and J. N. Docker, Helen; William B. Shillman and Thomas Davis, Lenont Furnace, and Robert Phinkney, Juniatown.

The examination for the fire boss aspirants is a severe one as it not only entails considerable practical knowledge, but some information on mathematics and elementary chemistry. Any American citizen can take the examination and there is no preliminary educational test.

The men taking the examination here, among other things, are required to tell what they know about the condition of a mine upon examination, as it is the duty of fire bosses to inspect the condition of a mine before the miners are allowed to enter. They are told to explain the reports they should be required to make, under scores of varying conditions.

The effect and volume of different gases must be explained as well as the important question of ventilation. The men must tell the amount of air, by cubic feet, is needed to displace and render harmless a given quantity of gas.

A week or so following this examination will determine which men have passed. The successful ones are then taken to a mine or a specially equipped testing station where their knowledge is put to a practical test by oral questions and answers. Certificates to fire bosses are issued by the examiners. These for the mine foremen come from the State Department of Mines at Harrisburg.

Neither at Uniontown or Connellsville are any negroes taking the examination. Negroes are opposed to working under ground and few of them are employed on inside work. Their superstitious nature causes them to fear to work under ground and but few of them can be found in the mines of the region. They prefer working on the yards and in the open to penetrating the mines. A fair proportion of foreign born citizens are taking the examinations.

BIG COKE DEAL CLOSED IN WEST VIRGINIA FIELD

Baldwin Locomotive Company Signs Yearly Contract With Elkins Interest.

Another big coke deal was closed in Pittsburgh Thursday and caused considerable comment in industrial circles. The Baldwin Locomotive Company, of Philadelphia, closed a deal with the Elkins Coal & Coke Company for 1,000 tons of coke a month for the next year, effective April 1. It is understood that the minimum amount of coke to be delivered each month is 1,000 tons, and it is probable that the total tonnage for the year will exceed 16,000 tons.

One of the features of this deal is that this is the first time the Baldwin company has gone to the West Virginia field for its coke and this department has attracted no little attention. Heretofore the company purchased all its coke from the Connellsville field. This year the coal will be taken from the mines near Fairmont, W. Va., and the coke will be shipped from the Richards plant.

CAUGHT BY FALL SOON AFTER ENTERING MINE

Mathias Ault of Town Met With Misfortune at Leisenring Yesterday.

Three hours after starting to work in the mines of the H. C. Frick Coke Company at Leisenring No. 1 Mathias Ault of Cottage avenue, was caught by a fall of slate sustaining several scalp wounds. Ault was removed to the Cottage State Hospital where he was resting easy today at noon.

Ault is a stonemason by trade and failing to secure employment at his trade he secured work with the H. C. Frick Coke Company and yesterday morning started to work in the mines. He is aged 64 years.

TO TEST COAL.

West Virginia Will Be Given Trial at Pittsburg Station.

West Virginia coal operators have received word from John Laing, chief of the department of mines of the State of West Virginia, to the effect that he has arranged with the representatives of the United States Government in charge of the experimental station at Pittsburg for the use of the station for the purpose of testing coal dust taken from mines in all sections of West Virginia. The object of the tests is to demonstrate the degree of explosiveness of the different dusts and the points of ignition.

Mr. Laing will ship from each of the 12 mining districts of the State from 150 to 500 pounds of coal dust taken from such mines as are considered dangerous by the engineers in charge because of the explosive nature of a mixture of the gas in the mines with the coal dust. He will also ship from 150 to 500 pounds of dust taken from mines where there is none or practically no gas, in order to demonstrate the possibility of dust explosions in mines free of gas. He will also demonstrate in the tests of the dust taken from the so-called safe mines that the dust, unless moistened, is actually as dangerous under certain conditions as the dust in the mines generating fire damp.

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The Lower Connellsville District

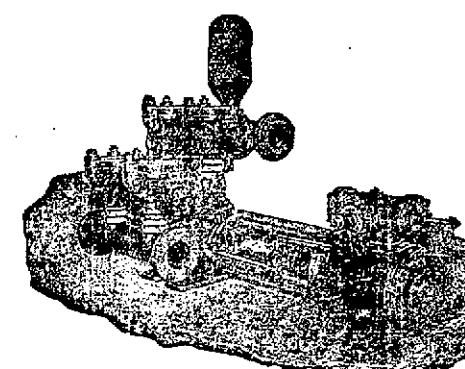
With Their Owners, Address and Ovens in Blast Corrected to Saturday, April 10, 1909.

Total Ovens	In Blast	Name of Works	Type of Operators	P. O. Address
45	45	Alida	Alida Coke Co.	Uniontown
52	42	Aspinwall	Aspinwall Coke Co.	Uniontown
108	108	Atherton	Bethel Iron & Steel Co.	Cana
20	20	Baxter Ridge	Baxter Ridge Coal & Coke Co.	Uniontown
15	15	Bethel	Bethel Coke Co.	Uniontown
43	470	Brier Hill	Brier Hill Coke Co.	Uniontown
26	26	Browning	Browning Coke Co.	Brookville
48	32	Burntinton	Burntinton Coke Co.	Smithfield
70	18	Burnham	Burnham Coal & Coke Co.	Uniontown
24	24	Century	Century Coke Co.	Brownsburg
30	16	Champion	Champion Connellsville Coke Co.	Uniontown
34	10	Collins	South Fayette Coke Co.	Uniontown
48	48	Colonial No. 1	Colonial Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
20	10	Colonial No. 2	Colonial Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
15	10	Colonial No. 3	Colonial Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
52	70	Corilla	Corilla Coal & Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
120	120	Crystal	Sackett Coal & Coke Co.	Smithfield
20	20	Death	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
22	22	Diamond No. 1	Consolidated Connellsville Coke Co.	Uniontown
12	24	Diamond No. 2	Iron City Coal & Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
10	10	Dorothy	James Creek Coke Co.	Uniontown
21	21	Drexell	Drexell Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
12	12	Dunbar	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
50	12	Eisenberg	Walter J. J. Eisenberg Coke Co.	Uniontown
149	149	Elma	Walter J. J. Eisenberg Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
30	30	Elmwood	South Fayette Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
12	12	Emery	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
20	20	Foothills	Sunshine Coal & Coke Co.	Martin
69	69	Frank	Frank Taylor & Sons Co.	Uniontown
30	30	Frederick	Dunbar Connellsville Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
31	31	Gardwood	Gardwood Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
42	42	Genuine	Hessing Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
49	49	Glenwood	Hessing Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
10	10	Heidelberg	Hessing Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
10	10	Hercules	Hercules Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
12	12	Hope	Hoppe Coal & Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
20	20	LaFayette	Atlas Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
42	42	Lakeview	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
20	20	Lakeview	Pittsburgh Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
40	40	Lincoln	Lincoln Coal & Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
20	20	Low Phos.	Connellsville Central Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
19	19	Lourdes	South Fayette Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
22	22	Martin	McKeever Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
22	22	McKeever	McKeever Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
10	10	Milboro	Hessing Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
10	10	Newcomer	Edgar Newcomer Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
22	22	Old Home	W. J. Marshall	Uniontown
68	68	Parshall No. 1	Parshall No. 1	Uniontown
168	168	Parshall No. 2	Parshall No. 2	Uniontown
10	10	Perry	Perry Coal & Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
2	2	Pittsburgh	Hannan & Sons Co.	Pittsburgh
43	43	Republic	Reichardt Bros. & Steel Co.	Pittsburgh
25	25	Ruth Hill	Ruth Hill Coke & Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
20	20	Roxes	H. C. Frick Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
15	15	Sherman	Taylor & Son's Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
165	165	Shumard	Fayett Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
20	20	Steering	Franklin & Clegg & Co.	Pittsburgh
12	12	Thompson No. 1	Thompson No. 1	Pittsburgh
23	23	Thompson No. 2	Thompson No. 2	Pittsburgh
12	12	Tower Hill No. 1	Tower Hill Connellsville Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
21	21	Tower Hill No. 2	Tower Hill Connellsville Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
30	30	Washington No. 1	Washington Coal & Coke Co.	Pittsburgh
50	29	Washington No. 2	Washington Coal & Coke Co.	Pittsburgh

Yough Steam Pumps

MANUFACTURED BY
BOYTS, PORTER & COMPANY,
Connellsville, Pa., U. S. A.

Vertical Deep Well Pumps Heavy and Light Pressure Pumps
Wood Lined Mine Pumps With Pot Valve Water Chambers



Mine Pumps Tank Pumps Electrical Power Pumps
Hydraulic Pumps Compound Pumps Sinking Pumps
Special Boiler Feed Pumps With Self Grinding Bronze Valves.
PUMPS BUILT FOR OPERATION BY STEAM, COMPRESSED AIR or ELECTRICITY.

Connellsville Machine & Car Co.,

MANUFACTURERS OF

THE LAFAYETTE STEAM PUMP,

Engines, Mine Fans, Laries, Pit Cars, Cages, Coal Screens, Coke Crushers, Coke Barrows, Sheave Wheels, Drums, Universal Dump Cars and Complete

Outfits for Coal and Coke Works.

We carry in stock Machinery Supplies, Injectors, Pipe Fittings, Jenkins Star and Standard Valves, Packings, Leather Belts, Steel Iron and Nails, Railroad Spikes, Splice Bar Spots and Nut Locks, Machine and Carriage Bolts, Steel Coke Scraper Heads, Scraper Handles, Coke Oven Valves and

COKE HOSE.

Works at Mount Creek Junction of Baltimore & Ohio and Pennsylvania Railroads.
OFFICE AND STORE, 309 and 311 WATER STREET,
Connellsville, Pa.

COCHRAN BROS. Coal and Coke.

MANUFACTURERS AND SHIPPERS OF

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OFFICERS:

W. H. COCHRAN, President.

H. T. COCHRAN, Gen. Manager.

A. J. COCHRAN, Secretary and Treasurer.

RAILROAD WEIGHTS TO GOVERN SETTLEMENTS.

J. P. BRENNEN, President.

ANDREW A. THOMPSON, Treasurer.

W. G. ROCK, Secy and Asst. Treasurer.

Thompson Connellsville Coke Co.

STANDARD CONNELLSVILLE FURNACE COKE.

The Weekly Courier.

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THE COURIER COMPANY.

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The Weekly Courier.

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J. H. S. STEINWELL,
Secretary and Treasurer.

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Advertisements.

Advertisements for help or positions wanted, for sale ads or wants for new or second-hand, must meet the rate of one cent a word per issue. No advertisements received for a single issue less than 25 cents. Address The Weekly Courier, Connellsville.

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THURSDAY MORNING, APR. 15, '09.

PENNSYLVANIA INDUSTRIES
AND THE NEW TARIFF.

The Tariff bill passed the House finally yesterday after a month's debate, materially changing in many instances but not materially bettered so far as Pennsylvania interests are concerned and certainly not improved in its equitable features. Its proportions were not the most symmetrical when it came out of the Ways and Means Committee and they have been sadly marred in the making over by the whole House. This fact alone will be sufficient ground for a practically new Senate bill in which Pennsylvania capital and labor may fare better. We will indulge that hope.

The House bill as finally adopted cuts the iron and steel schedules to the bone and leaves the petroleum industry bare evidently with a view to punishing the Steel Trust and the Oil Trust and wholly unmindful of the fact that neither of them control these industries. There are in each a large number of independent operators who are less able to stand the reductions in the Tariff than are the Trust interests. The latter will be able to get along successfully. The blow that is aimed at them will glance off and its full and deadly impact will reach those for whom it is not intended.

Complaint is made without reason that in Tariff revisions there is always a tendency to make a mark of Pennsylvania industries. This should perhaps be expected when the revision is being made by Democratic authority but it is an Republican unwise and ungrateful when made by Republican influences. Pennsylvania never suffers in its support of the Republican national ticket. The Republican doctrine of Protection is pledged to the reasonable conservation of our industries and they ask no more than a decent recompence for that pledge.

The House has given them a stone to the Senate they must look for bread.

WHY COKE WORKERS' WAGES
WILL NOT BE REDUCED.

The action of the H. C. Frick Coke Company managers in assuring their employees that no wage reductions are contemplated by them is highly gratifying to the people, as well as the workingmen of the co-operation chiefly because it is a substantial promise that there will be no general wage reduction.

There is in it much hope for the future. The people who control this company are the same people who control and manage the United States Steel Corporation. It is reasonable to conclude that, if reduced to reduce wages at this time means that better times are in store for the steel and iron and coke trades in the very near future.

There would be no trouble in reducing wages just now because the supply of labor exceeds the demand, but it has been the policy of this interest to maintain uniformity in wages and prices at rates which are fair to labor and capital.

In this respect at least the Steel Trust has been a benevolent Octopus.

A COSTLY AND DOUBTFUL
PIECE OF LEGISLATION.

The School Code is on its way to final passage. We are not prepared at this time to pass judgment on its merits and demerits for we doubt not it possesses both, but it is plain that it has been a costly piece of legislation, having deferred the passage of a large number of measures many of which are regarded as being of quite as much importance as the School Code.

Representatives Carroll of Fayette and Fair of Westmoreland, both school masters of experience and intelligence, pronounce the School Code to be a miserable patchwork of legislation and while they have been in much opposition to the supporters of the bill, they have not been essentially against all the opposition has gathered, and their views are entitled to some consideration. However, when the contents of the amended measure are known we will be able to judge of its merits for ourselves.

In its original form perhaps the most objectionable feature of the bill was the section which took out of the hands of the people the election of school directors, or, in other words, vested that power in the courts. With this proposal the spirit of democracy took issue. It is true that the people often choose incompetent school directors and it was upon this plea that the framers of the School Code proposed to vest that power in the courts. They argued that the management of the schools would thereby be taken out of politics.

But the opponents of the bill aver that so far from taking the management of the public education out of politics this plan would only plunge the management deeper in that from local factional politics the school management would become the foot ball or county machine politics, and that the subsequent proportion to lodge the appointive power in the hands of the Governor would only mean to expose it to the manipulation of State machines. There was enough force behind this argument to cause the amendment of the bill so far as it applied to townships, boroughs and cities of the lesser masses leaving this section to apply only to the larger cities and even with respect to them the original plan was materially modified.

The plan to make school directors appointive by the courts is apparently founded upon the assumption that the judges are a non-partisan body and perhaps as a body they are, particularly with reference to matters in litigation but they are nevertheless in their individual capacities particular some of them zealous so if they were called upon to exercise such powers as the School Code first sought to clothe them with it is not to be doubted that in many if not in most instances they would have developed sufficient partisan spirit to let their appointments be dictated by their particular party organizations thus making the common school system a football of politics. Under such conditions politics would inevitably become one of the chief qualifications of the school teachers. Ability would become a secondary consideration.

Formerly a woman was proud of being not but now she strives to maintain her status in the world of education in order to avoid being despised.

The Legislature did well to leave well enough alone.

THE WASTED BREATH
OF A JERSEY PREACHER.

The preacher who talks of women's attire usually makes a dismal failure of his sermon. Not only because he seldom talks intelligently on the subject being to himself a bichon without practical knowledge, but particularly because he has a vice and his structures provoke no king but inextinguishable and ferocious. And so it is with the New Jersey minister who speaks as follows had the merit of being original at least.

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EXTEND THE SESSION
AND DO THE BUSINESS.

The House at Harrisburg is accused of playing hook and its absences will be brought to book on Monday but the offense is never considered very serious and the traitors will no doubt be excused without even reprimand.

The School Code has been responsible for a great deal of trouble at this session of the legislature and it will be responsible for the defeat of a great deal of legislation which in the aggregate at least is far more noble than the School Code could possibly be.

The School Code is founded on right principles regarding the government of the schools but it attacks one of the dearest American privileges namely the right of the people to choose their own School Directors and this has been seized upon by the opposite party but it is not so bad as to be out of the world to turn out a man and most women will take an excuse of their to reflect the ta blation plate.

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The one weak feature of our government today is the large percentage of voters who are wholly unfitted in mental capacity to participate in the supreme duty of making and unmaking our official governing bodies. Indeed it frequently happens that deplorable ignorance sits in high places squandering the money of the people and insulting their intelligence.

The educational qualification imposed upon the foreign born residents seeking citizenship should be extended to all those who now have it to the desirable end that enlightenment shall dictate the choice of our rulers and that we shall consequently be ruled wisely.

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THE STATE CONSTABULARY,
ITS WORK AND WAGES.

The defeat of the bill in the State Constabulary was generally attributed to old foes against it, two-fold, coming from the opposite party but it is not so bad as to be out of the world to turn out a man and most women will take an excuse of their to reflect the ta blation plate.

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WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM FOR LOWER YOUGHIOGHENY VALLEY.

Engineer J. B. Hogg Is Making Plans for Big Reservoir to Supply Smithton and Nearby Points.

PRESENT WATER IS POLLUTED

Not Only Are the Railroads and Coal Mines of the Neighborhood Menaced by Water Shortage, But Quality of That for Domestic Use Is Bad.

J. B. Hogg has just returned from a trip of inspection of the proposed water supply system for the South Huntingdon Water Company, the reservoir for which will be located on Barren Run, a tributary of Jacobs Creek in South Huntingdon township. Westmoreland county to supply the towns of Jacobs Creek, Smithton including the large new brewery, and West Newton, together with the Baltimore & Ohio and Pittsburgh Lake Erie railroads and the mines of the Pittsburgh Coal Company in that immediate vicinity which are as follows: Darr Nos 1 and 2, Stiegel Hollow, Whitsett, Eureka, Waverly and Fort Royal.

There is probably no district in Western Pennsylvania that suffers so seriously for lack of good water in the dry periods of the year or in fact any time of the year, as the territory just described. In times of low water the streams become heavily impregnated with acid mine water which percolates through the underlying strata into the walls of this locality making the water unwholesome and distasteful for domestic use and ruinous for boiler purposes. The railroads last summer were compelled to run trains of tank cars from water supply points above Connellsville in order to supply their engines. The scarcity of water makes the insurance rates very high. Three percent is the prevailing rate in this region, one man at Jacobs Creek paying \$900 insurance per annum.

The South Huntingdon Water Company is composed of the following: John Anderson of Scottdale, Cyrus Echard of Connellsville, D. B. Anderson and Cowan P. Hepler of Smithton and James Gwynn of Jacobs Creek.

It has been decided to build a concrete dam and Mr. Hogg in his office is working out the details of the various types of the best modern concrete construction and will submit three different schemes to the stockholders. One will be a vertical wall with counterforts or buttresses another will be of the Amburton type and the third will be of solid concrete. A comparison of the efficiency and cost will be submitted and when a selection has been made, bids will be as for the immediate construction of the work.

The reservoir will have a capacity of 14,584,600 gallons. The water shed has an area of 10 square miles. The water shed is peculiar free from any sources of contamination as it is at most entirely covered with forest and a growth of small timber. This undergrowth will also regulate to a large degree the run off insuring an even supply of water.

Mr. Hogg will have a corps of engineers on the ground not later than Tuesday as soon as it is possible for him to organize a new staff.

If this territory de-velops as he stockholders anticipate an additional reservoir for storage purposes will be built above the one now proposed. This will be of a large capacity and will act as an auxiliary to regulate the flow into the lower reservoir.

John Anderson has arranged to put a force of laborers on Monday for clearing and grubbing the barn of the reservoirs of all roots, stumps and other vegetable matter and also to do the excavation necessary for the dam.

TOURING COMMITTEE HOLDS MEETING HERE

Fayette County Sabbath School Association Gathers in the United Brethren Church

The annual tour of the Sunday Schools of Connellsville and vicinity was held Friday afternoon and evening in the United Brethren Church under the auspices of the Fayette County Sabbath School Association. The meeting was one of much interest and subjects pertaining to the work of the various Sunday School departments were taken up in a lively discussion.

B. S. Forsythe President of the Association presided over the meeting. Rev. C. M. Watson was the principal speaker of the afternoon. Rev. Watson spoke on Teacher Training. B. S. Forsythe then gave a short talk on the coming Fayette County Sabbath School convention to be held in the Armory June 17, 18 and 19. Late evening Rev. J. S. Elmer of Perryopolis spoke on Teacher Training and Adult Classes. Rev. Elmer showed in many instances where young men had been brought into the church through the Adult Bible Class.

Company Takes Options

UNIONVILLE, April 14.—The United Textile Company has optioned from J. A. Thompson, pearl, four acres of ground here and expects to build a factory here between \$500 and 1,000 girls will be employed and the payroll is expected to run from \$5,000 to \$10,000 a month.

WILL OF E. P. COUSE

Estate of \$18,500 Goes Entirely to the Widow.

The will of the late Edwin P. Couse, editor of the Clermont Monitor of Brownsville was admitted to probate Friday by the registrar of the State, consisting of \$10,000 in personal property and \$8,500 in real estate is given without reservation to the widow, Henrietta Miller, Couse who is also named as executrix.

The will was written March 27, 1899 when the testator was a resident of Crafton, Allegheny County. There are no witnesses to the document and has had charge of the metal

BROWN WILL RETIRE.

Fayette County Man 70 Years Old Yesterday and Will Leave P. R. Brown, foreman of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company's maintenance department at Pittsburgh, was 70 years old Friday and will be placed on the retired list April 30. Mr. Brown was born in Uniontown April 9, 1839. He worked on a farm in several years and later moved to Alabama. At the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted in the Seventy-third regiment and served throughout the war. He married in and drilled the first regiment put into service by the United States Government in 1862. He is a son of General Hunt in commanding the Department of the South at Hilton Head Island. He organized a company of the First South Carolina Cavalry in 1863 and was in the ranks of the first regiment sent to fight for the Union.

At the close of the war he entered the blacksmith shop of the Pennsylvania and Erie, was promoted to the rank of foreman on the Pittsburgh division. He was then given a place in the shop and has had charge of the metal work for a number of years.

INTEREST ON INCREASE AMONG GUARDSMEN

Better Attendance is Noted Among Company D Men and the Outlook is Brighter

The members of Company D are beginning to take added interest in National Guard affairs especially with the approach of open weather. A number of matters are being taken up and there is exceptional activity among the guardsmen. The members of the company are interested in the bill which General Ellingson had before the State Legislature providing for payment of guardsmen for each drill. Officers of the company are especially interested because this will insure better attendance. At an order of the company members live out of town and this has the effect of reducing the tendency.

The rifle range will be opened on May 1 and will remain open until the first of October. The company is putting in a new automatic target which will improve the conditions of the range. The company expects to send a crack team of marksmen to the annual shoot in Pittsburgh in June.

MONDAY evening the company will give a dance in the Armory and indicates that it will be of the most successful of the many pleasant entertainments given by the organization. Thursday evening a speaker will be held at which time veterans of the Civil and Spanish American wars will be guests.

Efforts are being made to recruit the company to its full strength for the camp at Somers in July. The company is nearly up to the mark but is still below the full standard.

The company is interested in the production of Pinhook which is given under its auspices next week. The water shed is peculiar free from any sources of contamination as it is at most entirely covered with forest and a growth of small timber. This undergrowth will also regulate to a large degree the run off insuring an even supply of water.

Mr. Hogg will have a corps of engineers on the ground not later than Tuesday as soon as it is possible for him to organize a new staff.

A VERY STRANGE DISAPPEARANCE

E. L. Edwards of Jeannette Last Seen at Morgantown West Virginia

UNIONTOWN, April 14.—Two brothers of E. L. Edwards of Jeannette were here trying to find a trace of their brother who has been missing for over a month with no clue to his whereabouts. They said that he was on a visit to his son in Morgantown and that the son went with him to the station and saw him get on the night school train for Uniontown where he is going to stop off.

Then he intends to stop off at Connellsville a few hours to see a cousin and then take the train to Jeannette so as to arrive before dark. This is as seen of E. L. Edwards however who is going into his home at Morgantown. Neither the conductor nor brakeman remember the man and can not say where he goes. The train he did not come to Uniontown neither did he visit the relative in Connellsville. So far he has disappeared completely without a single trace. The police have been notified of the time but could not find a definite point. Mr. Edwards had only a small amount of money with him. It is not known whether he goes to the state of Washington where he has been missing for over a month with no trace to his whereabouts. They said that he was on a visit to his son in Morgantown and that the son went with him to the station and saw him get on the night school train for Uniontown where he is going to stop off.

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